October 12, 2010

Approved Christopher Stone
Christopher Stone

TO: Christopher Stone

FROM: Patricia Wood P.W.
Facilities Section
Water Resources Division

HASKELL FIRE
BURNED AREA REPORT

Recommendations

1. Authorize us to send a copy of the Burned Area Report to Flood Maintenance Division (FMD) as confirmation of the potential mudflow impact to Haskell Canyon Channel and drain inlets along the access road, mudflow impacts to Private Drain (PD) 1490 at the terminus of Wellston Drive, and PD 1386 south of Copperhill Drive below the burned area. It is our understanding that FMD's standard routines call for monitoring these facilities for postfire sediment impacts during storms and cleaning these facilities in accordance with its established criteria. The monitoring should continue for the next four to five years until the watershed has significantly recovered from the burn.

2. Authorize us to send a copy of the Burned Area Report to the following parties apprising them of the potential impacts of the burn and recommended measures:

   - Haskell Canyon LLC
   - Curtis Development

Attachments

A. Burned Area Map
B. List of residents either contacted or receiving engineering advice

Background

Fire Name: Haskell Fire
Date of Fire: August 8, 2010
Burned Area: 52 acres
Location: Southeast of the intersection at Copperhill Drive and Haskell Canyon Road in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. Refer to Thomas Guide Page 4461-B/C4. The burned area boundary is shown on Attachment A.

Summary of Potential Sediment Impact

The Haskell Fire occurred on undeveloped hillsides, located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County (see Attachment A). On August 10, 2010, Water Resources Division (WRD) staff conducted a field reconnaissance of the burned area boundary to assess potential mudflow impacts to residences and/or County facilities. WRD staff anticipates that during storm events of sufficient strength, as to cause a Design Debris Event (DDE), mudflow from the burned canyons may impact:

- Haskell Canyon Channel and its drain inlets
- PD 1490 and PD 1386 storm drains
- Private drains and swales maintained by private entities
- Residences downstream of the burned hillsides

The burned watershed is located within the Debris Production Area (DPA) 8 and includes 17 subareas (see Attachment A). The estimated debris potential volumes shown herein are based on a 50-year rainfall frequency event.

Subareas 1, 2, and 3

Subarea 1 has an area of 20 acres and was 82 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 1,000 cubic yards (cy).

Subarea 2 has an area of 6 acres and was 31 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 230 cy.

Subarea 3 has an area of 24 acres and was 33 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 900 cy.

During moderate to severe storm events (50-year frequency rainfall), loose sediment and debris material from these three watershed subareas is expected to settle on a wide, flat area below the burned area before spilling into an existing concrete swale, which is located along the northern boundary of Santa Clarita's Bouquet Canyon Park. Mud and debris in the swale may plug the drainage inlet at PD 1490, maintained by FMD, and spill over onto Wellston Drive. FMD routinely monitors these facilities for postfire sediment impacts during storms and cleans them in accordance with its established criteria.

Subarea 4

Subarea 4 has an area of 6 acres and was 55 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 260 cy. During moderate to severe storm events, loose sediment and debris material is expected to deposit sediment on a wide, flat area and may make its way into a concrete swale adjacent to a block wall at the rear of residential properties. The swale leads to an inlet at PD 1386. FMD routinely monitors the inlet at PD 1386 for postfire sediment impacts during storms and will maintain it in accordance with its established criteria. Currently, the swale contains litter and debris. It is recommended that Curtis Development/Haskell Canyon LLC clean out the swale prior to the onset of the storm season.

Subarea 5

Subarea 5 has an area of 2 acres and was 68 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 100 cy. During moderate to severe storm events, loose sediments and debris material from the burned hillside is expected to flow into PD 2469-04, which is owned by Curtis Development/Haskell Canyon LLC. It is recommended that Curtis Development/Haskell Canyon LLC remove the debris from the drain prior to the onset of the storm season. Sediment produced from this subarea may plug the drain inlet, overtop the inlet headwall, and settle on the access road. These parties should routinely monitor and maintain the drain for the next four to five years until the watershed has significantly recovered from the burn. WRD staff provided engineering mudflow advice to adjacent residents below the burned hillside (see Attachment B).

Subareas 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13

Subarea 6 has an area of 4 acres and was 27 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 150 cy.

Subarea 7 has an area of 1 acre and was 66 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 30 cy.

Subarea 8 has an area of 1 acre and was 56 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 23 cy.

Subarea 9 has an area of 1 acre and was 80 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 50 cy.

Subarea 10 has an area of 1 acre and was 59 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 24 cy.

Subarea 11 has an area of 1 acre and was 89 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 60 cy.

Subarea 12 has an area of 1 acre and was 85 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 60 cy.

Subarea 13 has an area of 1 acre and was 46 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 44 cy.

Sediment flows from the burned canyons are expected to flow into inlets for PD 2469-02 that are located at the north and south ends of Brookview Terrace. This drain is owned by Curtis Development/Haskell Canyon LLC. WRD staff has examined the drains and they are currently clear of debris material. It is recommended that Curtis Development/Haskell Canyon LLC routinely monitor storm drain inlets during the storm season and take appropriate steps to prevent plugging. The monitoring should continue for the next four to five years until the watershed have significantly recovered from the burn. WRD staff provided engineering mudflow advice to the residents below the burned hillsides (see Attachment B).

Subareas 14, 15, 16, and 17

Subarea 14 has an area of 5 acres and was 76 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 240 cy.

Subarea 15 has an area of 9 acres and was 83 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 460 cy.

Subarea 16 has an area of 3 acres and was 77 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 150 cy.

Subarea 17 has an area of 3 acres and was 57 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 130 cy.

Sediment flow from the burned watershed subareas is expected to flow directly from the hillsides into the low lying regions of the canyons and may impact drain inlets,

maintained by FMD, along Haskell Canyon Channel. FMD routinely monitors these facilities for postfire sediment impacts during storms and cleans them in accordance with its established criteria.

If you have any questions regarding this fire report, please contact Arevik Vardanyan at Extension 6115 or Mike Miranda at Extension 6164.

A.V.
AV:vt
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Attach.

cc: Flood Maintenance (West)